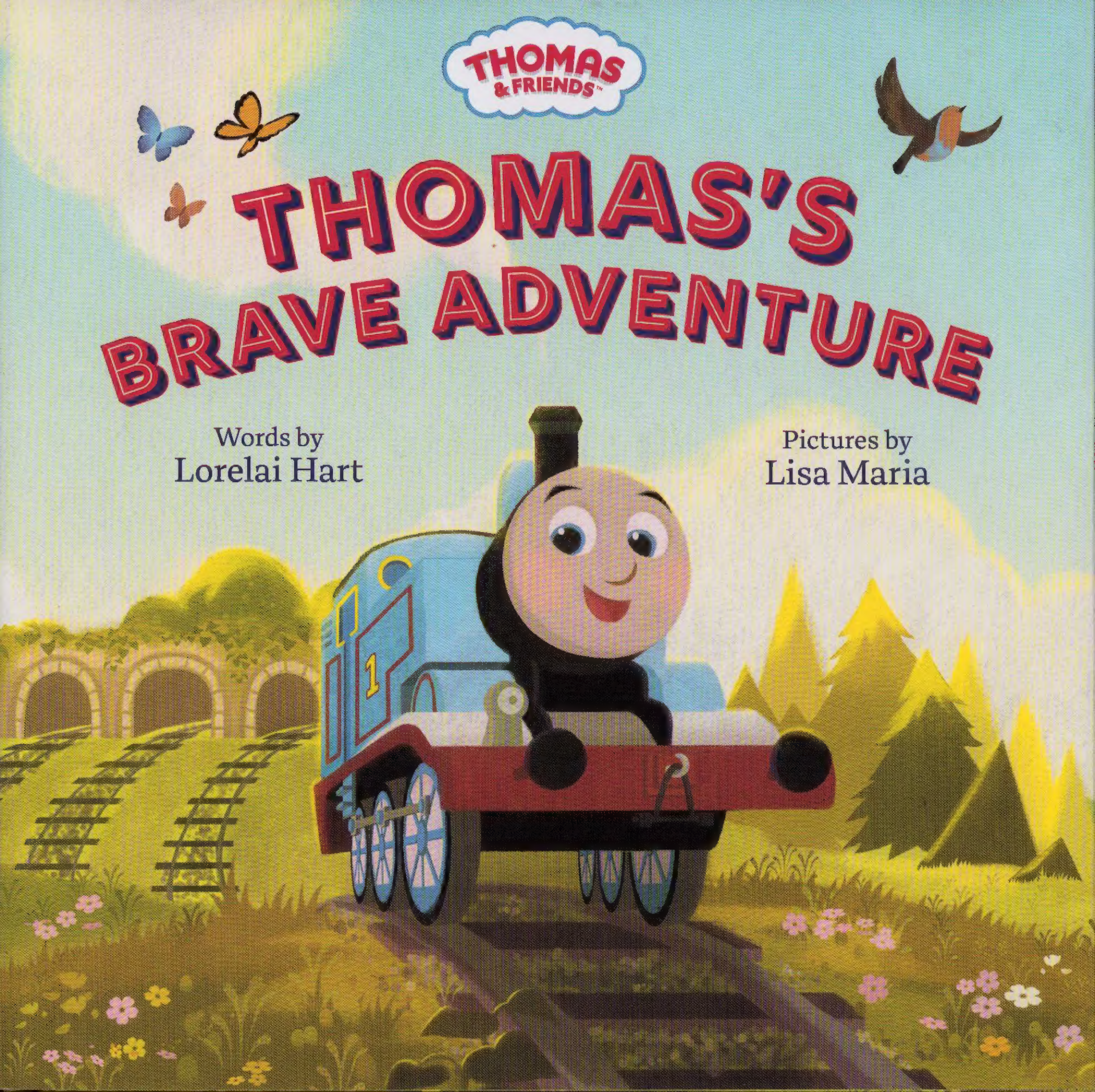
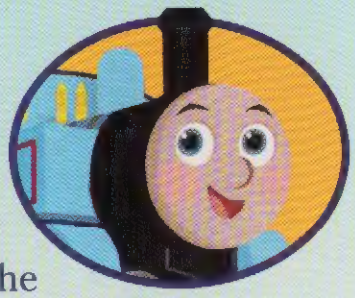

THOMAS & FRIENDS™
THOMAS'S BRAVE ADVENTURE
Words by
Lorelai Hart
Pictures by
Lisa Maria
1

TWO TRACKS, ONE BRAVE ADVENTURE!

Ollie is ready to be a "big kid" on his first journey along the Blue Railway—until, to his surprise, he learns his family will join him.



Meanwhile on the Island of Sodor, **Thomas the Tank Engine** is eager to prove he can deliver a special package all on his own, even though the destination lies deep in the Whistling Woods. As Thomas discovers unexpected surprises, he soon realizes that even the bravest engines enjoy having a friend by their side.

This heartwarming, timeless picture book welcomes new friends to the Island of Sodor—inviting little ones and grown-ups alike to embrace the magic of sharing life's big adventures.

Whistling Woods

Based on the Railway Series by The Reverend W Awdry. ©2026 Gullane (Thomas) Limited.
Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends™ and Thomas & Friends™ are trademarks of Gullane (Thomas) Limited.

©2026 HIT Entertainment Limited. HIT and the HIT logo are trademarks of HIT Entertainment Limited.

Mattel Press is a trademark of Mattel. ©2026 Mattel.

Published by Mattel Press, 333 Continental Boulevard, El Segundo, CA 90245.

No part of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means,
electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or by any
information storage and retrieval system, without written permission from the publisher.
For more information, please visit the Trademark & Copyright section at https://corporate.mattel.com/contact-us.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data is available.

ISBN 9781640366145
10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1
This edition first printing, May 2026
Printed in China
03/26QPP

Designed by Riza Cruz
Edited by Dani Valladares

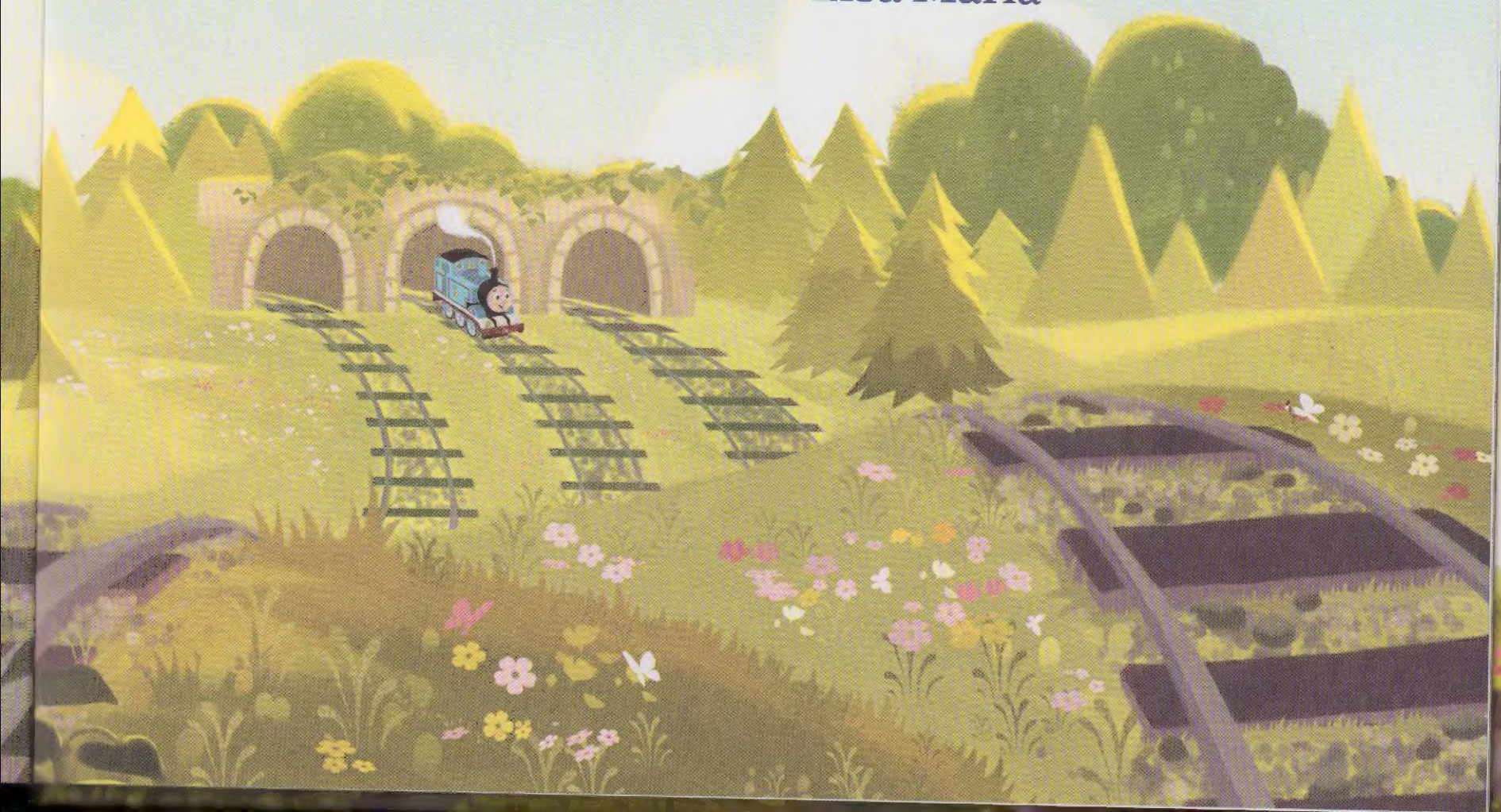
Visit us at Mattel.com

THOMAS & FRIENDS™

THOMAS'S BRAVE ADVENTURE

Words by
Lorelai Hart

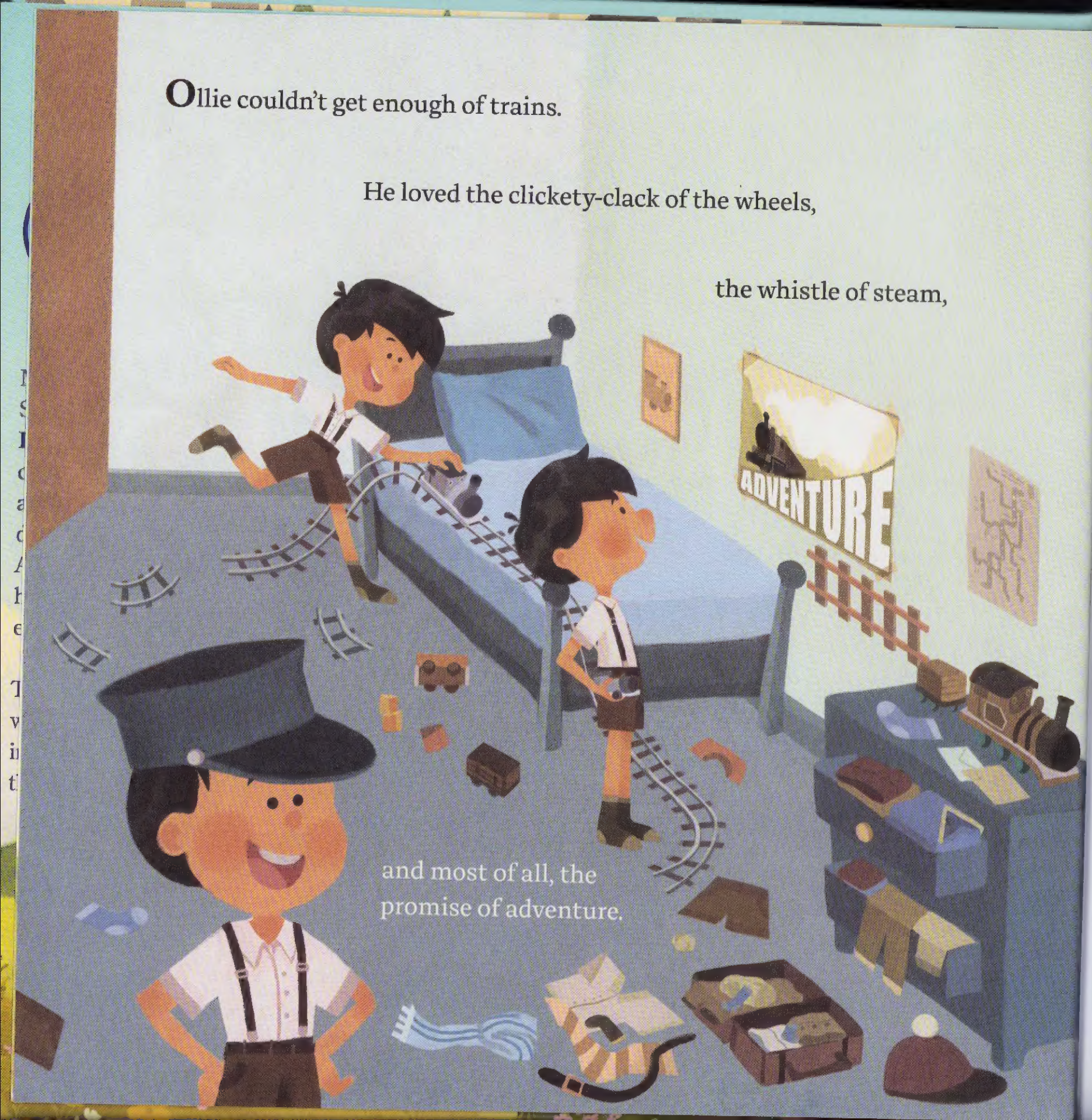
Pictures by
Lisa Maria



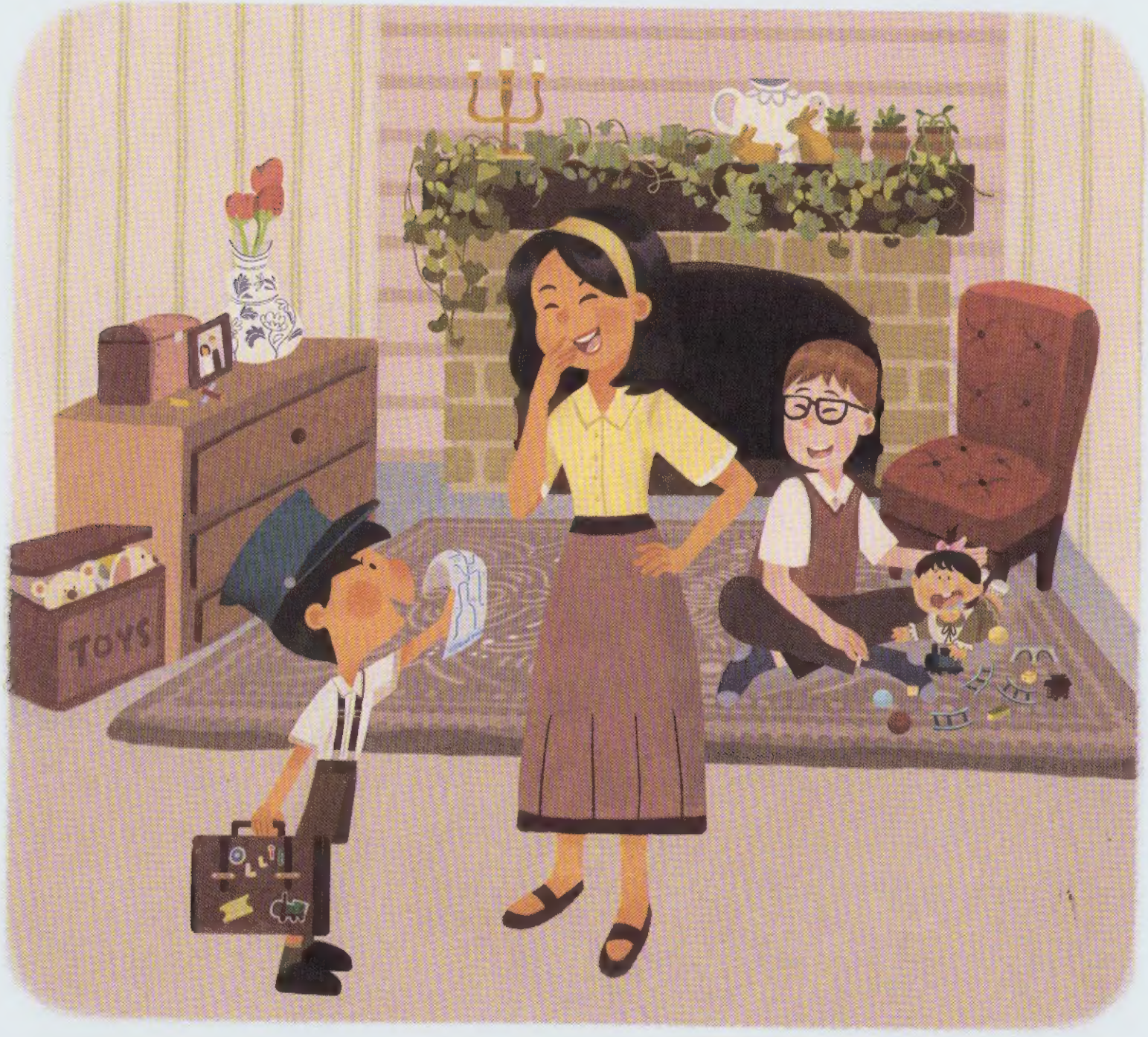
Ollie couldn't get enough of trains.

He loved the clickety-clack of the wheels,

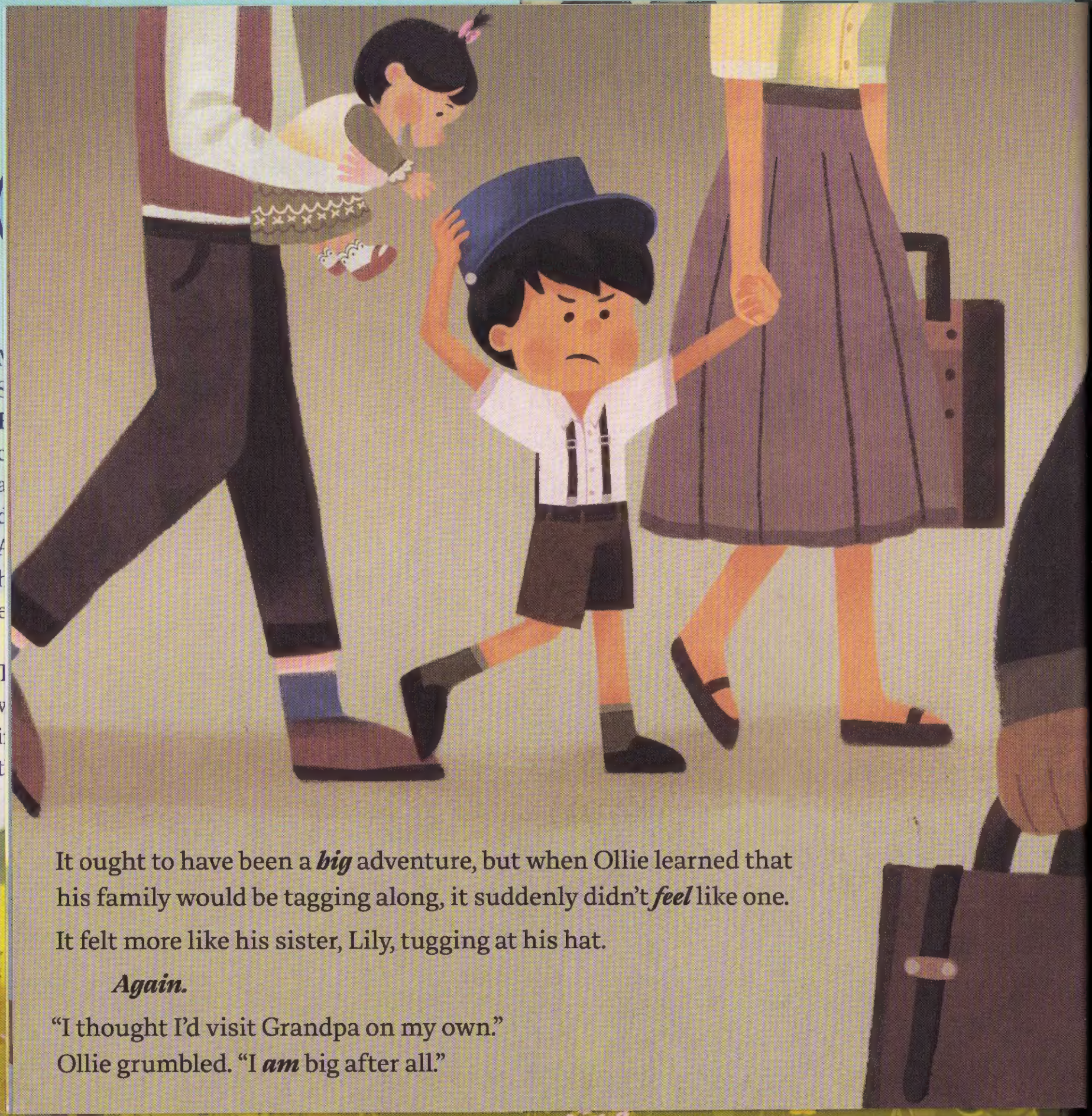
the whistle of steam,



and most of all, the
promise of adventure.



So, when Grandpa invited Ollie to visit, he knew how he'd be getting there—the Blue Railway straight across the countryside.



It ought to have been a ***big*** adventure, but when Ollie learned that his family would be tagging along, it suddenly didn't ***feel*** like one.

It felt more like his sister, Lily, tugging at his hat.

Again.

"I thought I'd visit Grandpa on my own." Ollie grumbled. "I ***am*** big after all."

"Oh yes," his mother said with a chuckle.
"You're a big brother now!"

Ollie felt his parents looking at each other in a way that told him they didn't think he was big ***at all***.

As they boarded the train, his parents peered around the compartment to find seats.

"Look, Ollie," his dad said, pointing to an empty row. "Why don't you sit across the way and enjoy the ride? We'll be right here if you need us."

Ollie's eyes lit up! Across the way wasn't exactly "on my own," but it was close enough for a big, brave adventure.

ALL ABOARD!

As the train sped up, new sights appeared. Busy towns turned into flower-filled fields. Butterflies danced outside the window. Horses galloped in the distance!

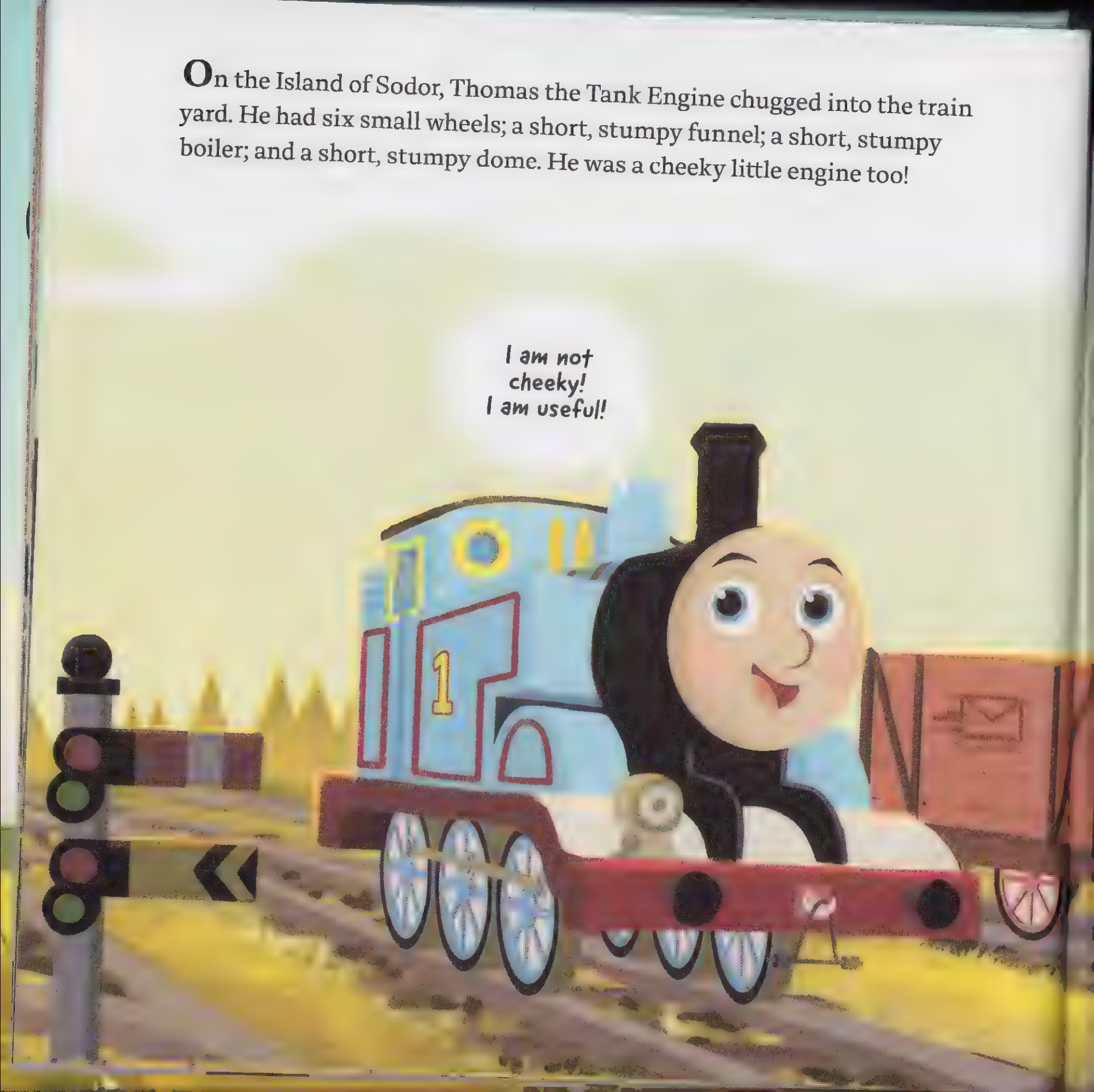
"No one to join you on this big adventure?" the conductor asked, smiling warmly.

"Nope!" Ollie beamed. "I'm doing it on my own!"

With a twinkle in her eye, the conductor reached into her coat pocket and pulled out a little blue toy engine.

"You remind me of my old friend Thomas the Tank Engine. Would you like to hear a story about him?" she asked.

On the Island of Sodor, Thomas the Tank Engine chugged into the train yard. He had six small wheels; a short, stumpy funnel; a short, stumpy boiler; and a short, stumpy dome. He was a cheeky little engine too!



His best friend, Percy, pulled the mail train and was coming in for his daily break.

"I'm running on steam." Percy sighed. "And not much of it!"

Even engines need to rest!

Just then, Sir Topham Hatt hurried over. He was in a right state!

"We've received a last-minute delivery for a very special event! But Percy is on his break . . . I suppose we'll just have to wait . . ."

Thomas stopped in his tracks. This was the ***perfect*** job for him.
A chance to prove how useful he could be . . . all on his own.

"It is! I'll do it! I am big and strong ***and*** useful," Thomas said, thinking aloud.

"Of course you are," cheered Sir Topham Hatt. "It's just past the Whistling Woods.
But you haven't traveled there before. Would you like some company?"

Thomas peered around the train yard. James and Henry were in the sheds. Rosie was passing by. There were other engines who could help, but Thomas wanted to prove he could do this on his own.

"No, sir," he said. "I can do it."

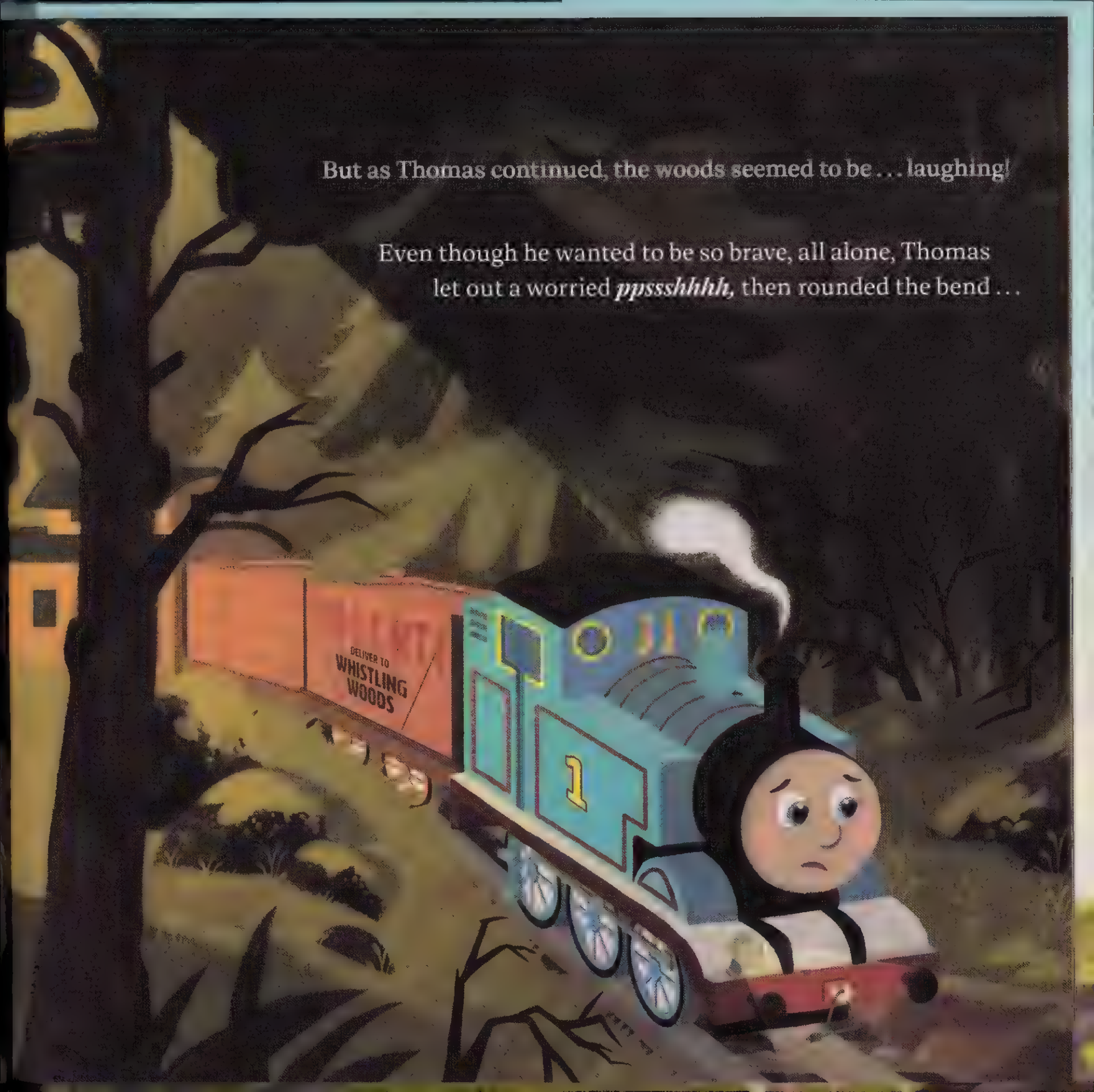
Going on my own will be fun!
Then you'd better crack on!
URGENT!
DELIVER TO
WHISTLING
WOODS
1

As Thomas made his way into the Whistling Woods, his puffs came fast and shaky—***chuff-chuff-chuff***. He hadn't visited this part of Sodor before.

Soon, he heard something quite strange. A ***chitter-chitter***, then a ***squeak-squeak-squeak***. It didn't sound like any engine Thomas knew of.

Thomas's whistle nervously rang through the woods. "Did you hear that?" he said to no one.
Because no one was there.
PEEP-PEEP!
Okay, okay. I get it!

Thomas was usually a brave engine, but even brave engines sometimes wish to have a friend beside them.


But as Thomas continued, the woods seemed to be . . . laughing!
Even though he wanted to be so brave, all alone, Thomas
let out a worried *ppssshhhh,* then rounded the bend . . .
DELIVER TO
WHISTLING
WOODS
1

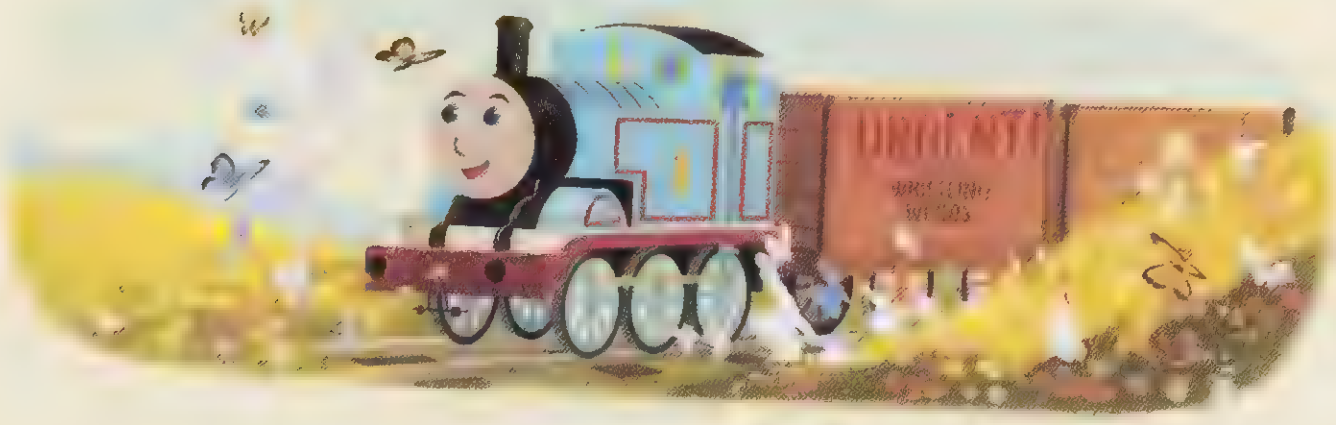
. . . and came upon a family of otters playing in the water. They chittered as they swam.

"Good thing I'm extremely brave and extremely useful," Thomas said. "Or someone might have thought I was afraid!."

Watching them, Thomas wished he'd waited for Percy so they could have seen it all together. They would've had such fun.

What a lot there was to see! He discovered there were marvels to find all across the Whistling Woods.

He sniffed sweet flowers,

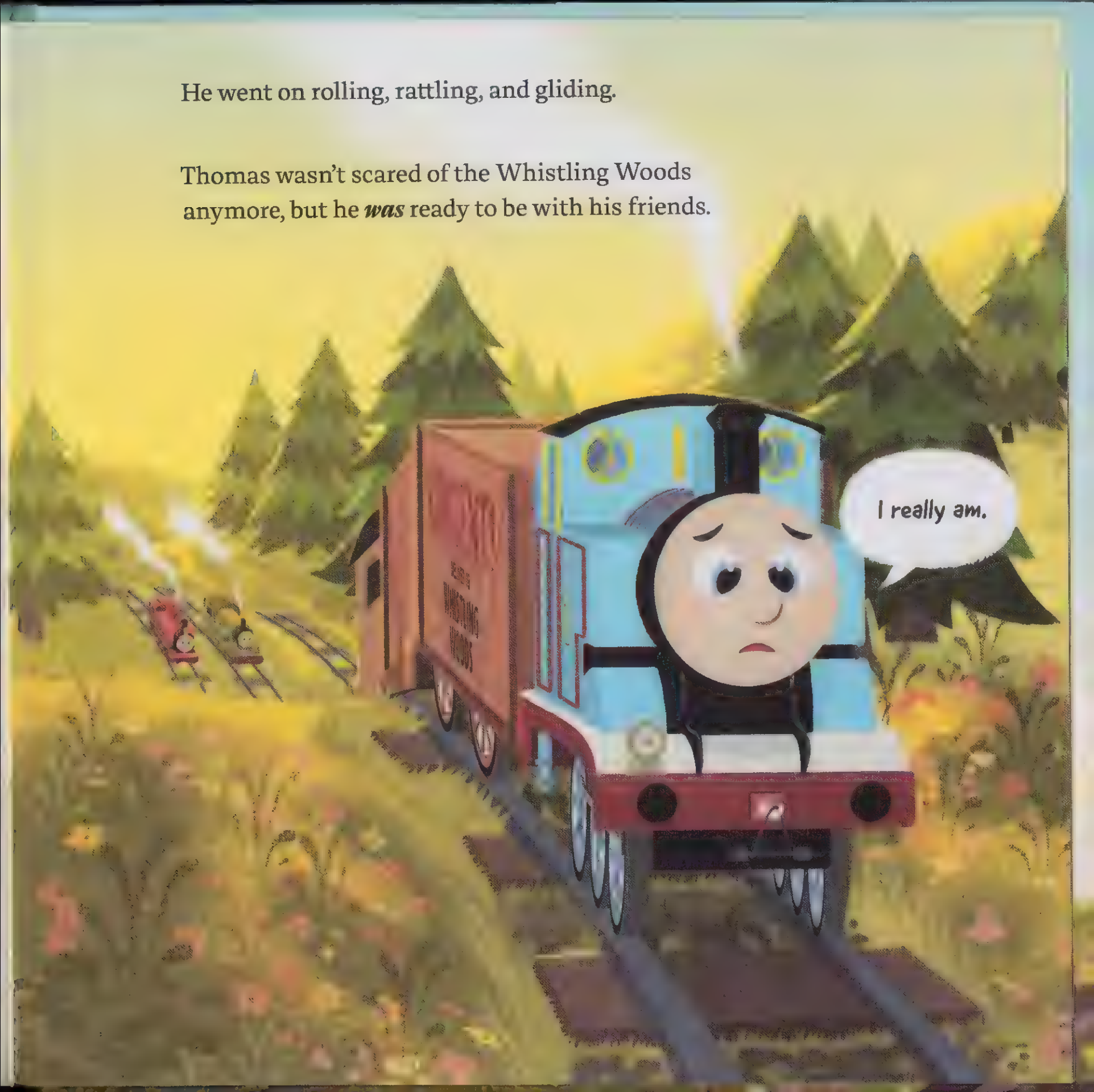


danced with a storm of butterflies,

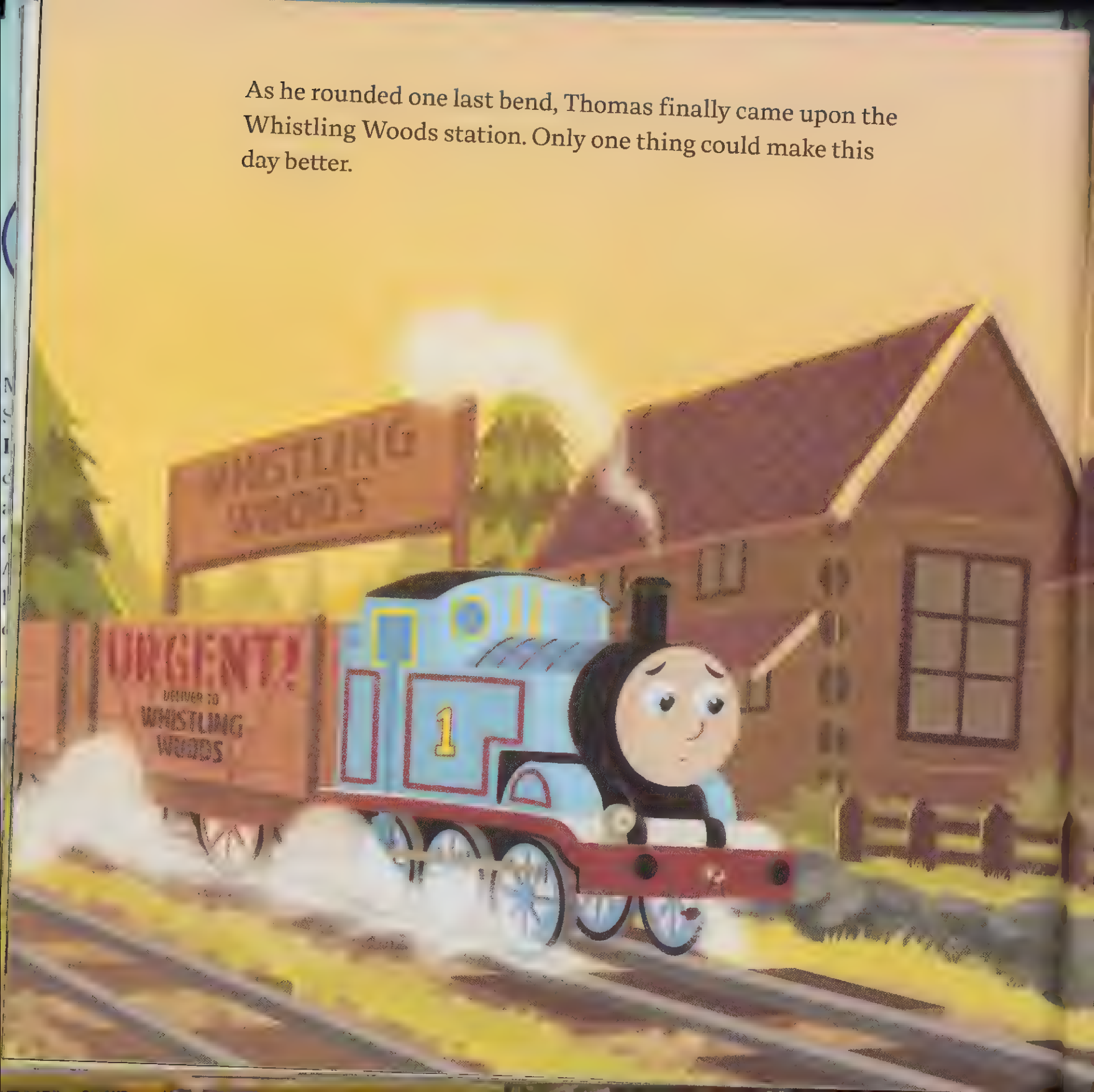
and even ***chugga-chugga***-ed alongside galloping horses!

He went on rolling, rattling, and gliding.

Thomas wasn't scared of the Whistling Woods anymore, but he ***was*** ready to be with his friends.



As he rounded one last bend, Thomas finally came upon the Whistling Woods station. Only one thing could make this day better.



Thomas had finally understood. Sometimes he wanted to be alone, but most things were better when shared with those he loved.

Percy and Rosie rushed down the tracks behind Thomas.

"Are you alright?" Percy asked. "We heard you ***peep-PEEP*** your horn and raced to find you!"

"We thought you might want some company after all!" added Rosie.

Now that he had his friends, Thomas felt better.

Much better, in fact.

Ollie held the toy engine close as the conductor finished her story. Suddenly, his spot all alone didn't seem so special.

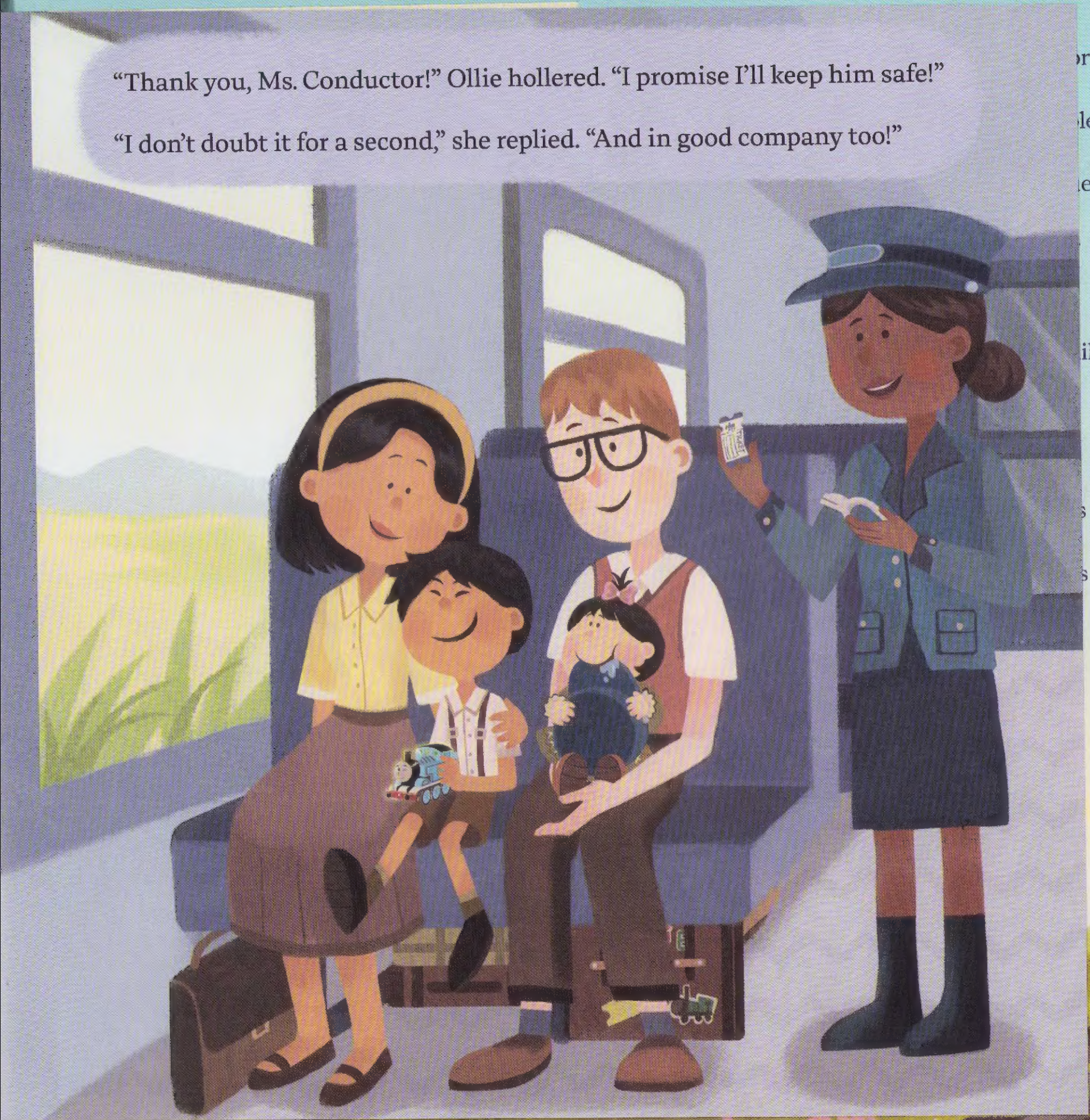
You know, I think I'd like to go and sit with my family.
Splendid!

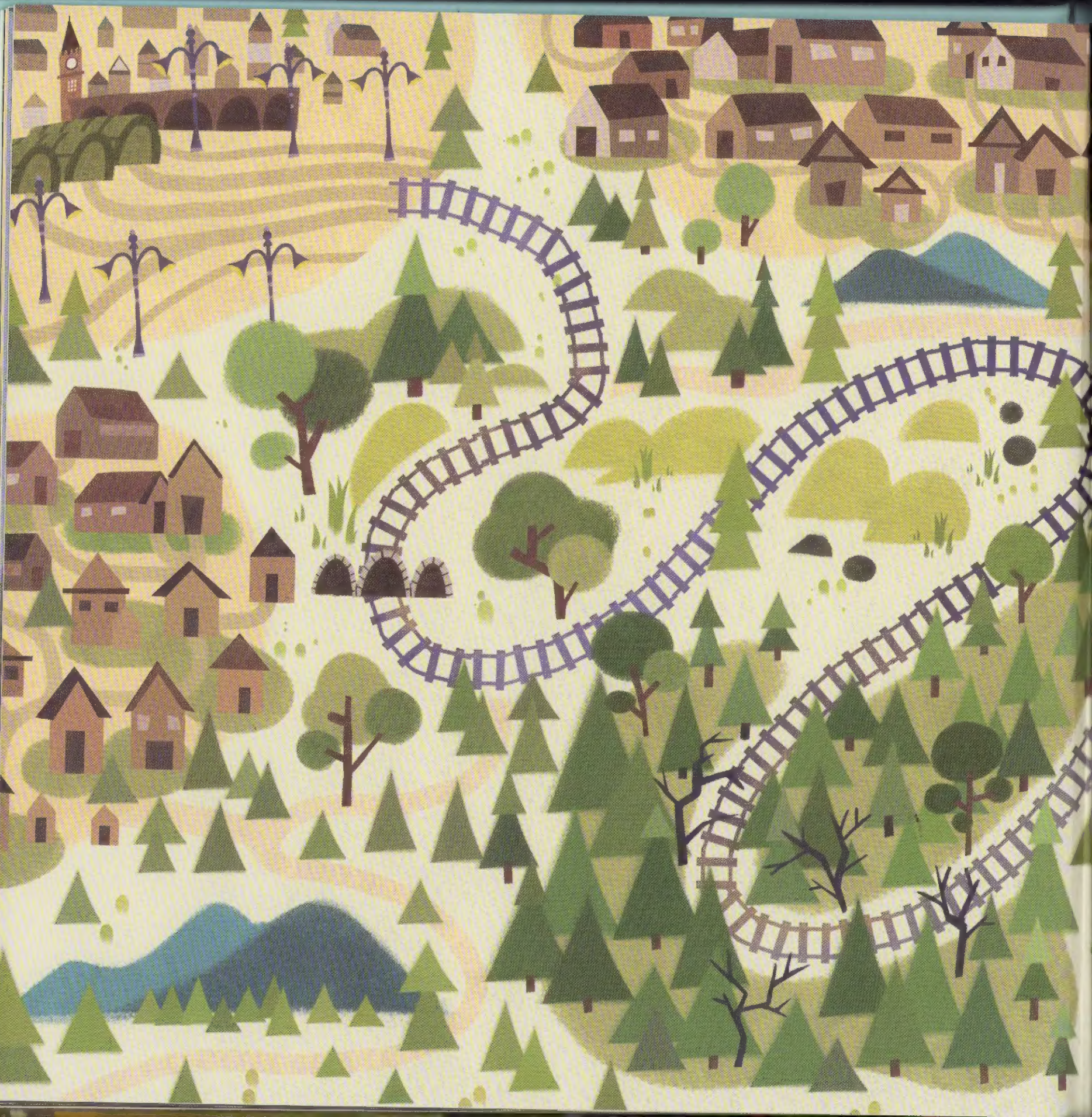
"It's only . . . I don't want ***Thomas*** to be alone." Ollie glanced shyly toward the toy engine on his empty seat.

The conductor nodded back, quite serious. "Hmm . . . yes, I agree. I think he's rather taken to you. Why don't you keep him?"

"Thank you, Ms. Conductor!" Ollie hollered. "I promise I'll keep him safe!"

"I don't doubt it for a second," she replied. "And in good company too!"





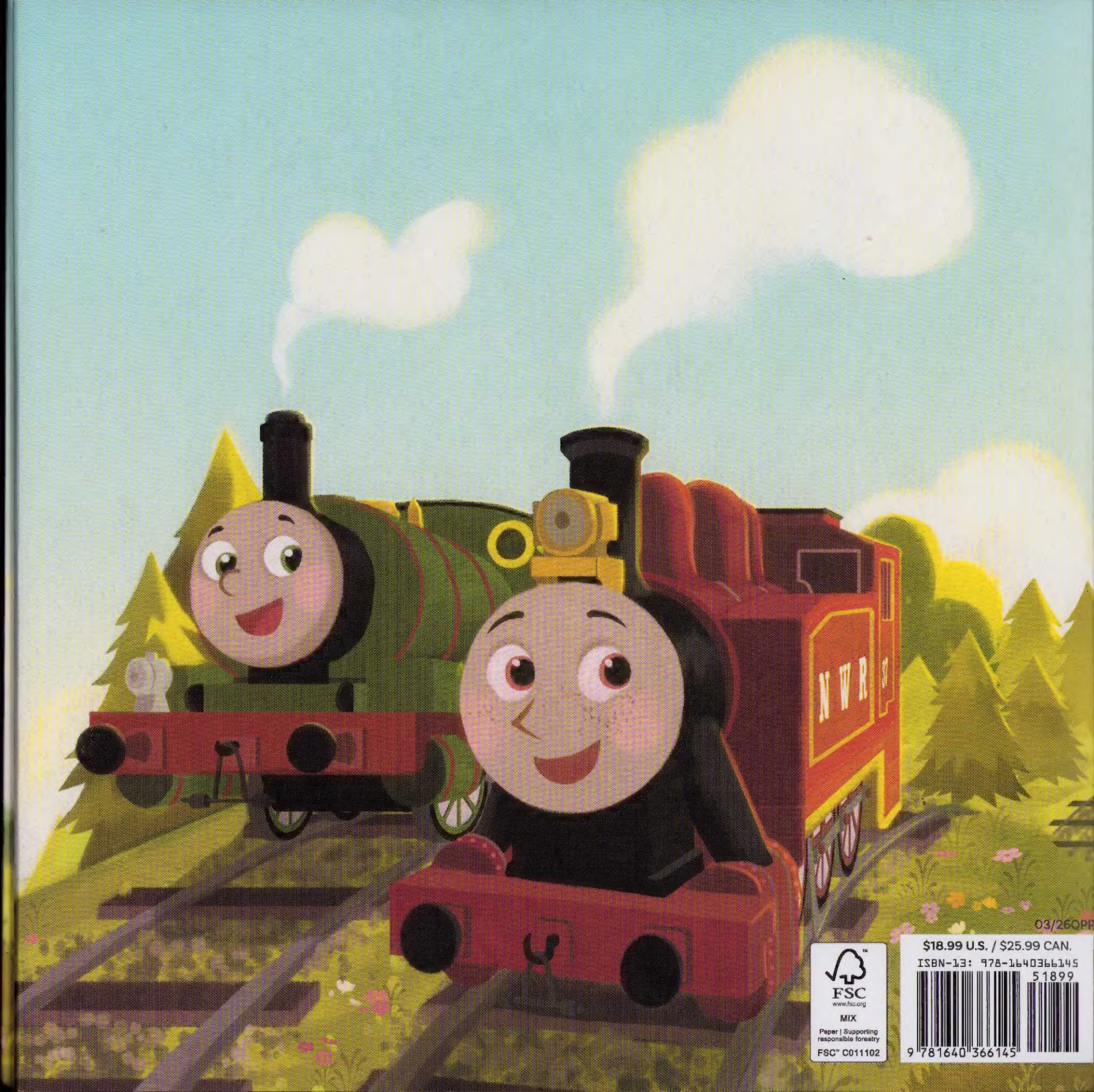
LORELAI HART is the proud author of magical books for children. She loves marshmallows, mountains, and making people smile. She believes that getting good rest is the first step to making big dreams come true. If you need her, she is probably petting one of her five cats, or her two dogs, or spending time with her family.

LISA MARIA is an illustrator who built her career creating characters for animation before discovering her love of illustrating children's books. She grew up in Indonesia, surrounded by nature and animals, which fueled her passion for drawing. She now lives in Illinois with her dog, Yumi, who loves to sleep on her lap while she works. When she's not drawing, Lisa enjoys traveling and trying new foods with her partner and friends. You can see more of her work at artofliria.com.

JNJ02
©2026 Mattel.

Jacket art by Lisa Maria
Jacket design by Riza Cruz
Printed in China
Visit us at Mattel.com.

MATTEL Press.



03/26QPP

FSC
www.fsc.org
MIX
Paper | Supporting responsible forestry
FSC™ C011102

$18.99 U.S. / $25.99 CAN.
ISBN-13: 978-1640366145
51899
9 781640 366145